

SENATE RESOLUTION 53  
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the National Congress  
for Community Economic Development and its  
1997 Annual Conference to be held in Memphis.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should honor those exemplary organizations that are dedicated to the comprehensive revitalization of low and moderate income communities throughout our nation; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress for Community Economic Development (NCCED) serves with distinction as the national trade association for organizations engaged in the economic revitalization of distressed communities through housing rehabilitation and construction, real estate development, employment-generating activities and social services; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1970, NCCED aggressively promotes and strongly supports its members' efforts through advocacy, research and special projects, publications, training, fundraising and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, NCCED's praiseworthy mission is to ensure that all the resources required for effective community economic development are identified, developed and made available to low and moderate income urban and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 700 organizations aligned to the community economic development industry belong to NCCED, including community development corporations,

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neighborhood housing agencies, community action agencies and other community-based non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, NCCED provides innovative leadership in a comprehensive movement to enhance the ability of low and moderate income families to achieve lasting economic viability; and

WHEREAS, fundamental to NCCED's mission is its belief in a grass roots, community-controlled approach to community development; and

WHEREAS, NCCED provides valuable assistance to community development corporations in promoting self-reliance and self-empowerment for the communities they serve; building indigenous leadership; and developing human capital; and

WHEREAS, this year NCCED will hold its annual three-day conference in Memphis, with more than 500 participants from the field of community economic development expected to attend; and

WHEREAS, this well-conceived and informative conference will bring national visibility to the City of Memphis and the outstanding work of local community economic development groups, enable increased participation in the conference by representatives of local and regional organizations, and bring a significant amount of travel and tourism to the Memphis economy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Memphis was selected to host the 1997 NCCED Annual Conference this fall because of the city's ability to bring business and community interests together in harmonious accord and to attract visitors with its unique blend of Southern hospitality and urban cosmopolitan ambience, the availability of its modern, state-of-the-art convention facilities, and Shelby County's elected officials' high standards of civic conduct that are never compromised; and

WHEREAS, we wish to offer our most heartfelt thanks to NCCED for exhibiting sound judgment in selecting Memphis as the host city for its 1997 Annual Conference; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend the National Congress for Community Economic Development upon its stellar support of and advocacy for low and moderate income American families and their ongoing commitment to the economic revitalization and self-empowerment of distressed communities, and thank this exemplary organization for choosing the beautiful City of Memphis as the site for its 1997 Annual Conference.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.